The Bill C-71 Book

What It Means, How It Hurts You, and 3 Easy Steps You Can Take Right Now to Block It

Foreword by Former MP
Garry Breitkreuz

Canadian Shooting Sports
Leading the Way...

TheGunBlog.ca

TEAM CSSA

Share the Passion...

Leading the way is a tough job. But someone has to do it.

Protecting the rights of Canada's firearm owners is our mission. As the country's largest and most effective advocacy group for hunters, sport shooters and collectors, the CSSA's influence reaches the highest levels of government.

"Walking the Walk" is more than a saying at Team CSSA. It's what we do. Every day.

Help us help you.

Join Team CSSA today.

Call 1-888-873-4339
or visit
https://cssa-cila.org

Current Update: June 21, 2018.

Reflects changes made by The House of Commons Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security (SECU)

Quick Start Guide

Nation-Wide Opposition to Bill C-71

Every national firearm-rights group in Canada

- Canadian Shooting Sports Association (CSSA)
- Canadian Coalition for Firearm Rights (CCFR)
- National Firearms Association (NFA)

The national firearm-industry association

- Canadian Sporting Arms and Ammunition Association (CSAAA)
- Gun stores, importers, distributors and manufacturers

Provincial associations, local clubs and ranges

- Provincial hunting and wildlife associations, clubs, shooting ranges

Individuals and athletes

- Everyone from world-class athletes and hunters to recreational shooters, to subsistence hunters, to people who just got their firearm licences oppose Bill C-71

Consequences for Gun Owners

Bill C-71 threatens to heap more restrictions on the proven good guys, federally licensed firearm owners, instead of the proven bad guys, violent criminals, drug dealers and gangs. Bill C-71 would also make it harder for honest people to buy, own and use firearms, while making it easier for police to ban and confiscate guns.

License Refusal

Many applicants will be refused their Possession and Acquisition License (PAL) as background checks are expanded to cover their entire lives.

Licence Revocation

By expanding background checks, Bill C-71 makes it easier for the RCMP to revoke your firearm Possession and Acquisition Licence.

No PAL = No firearms.

Confiscation

All newly reclassified "Prohibited" firearms will be confiscated when their current owners die.

Prohibition

Immediately reclassifies an estimated 10,000 to15,000 legally purchased and legally owned "Non-Restricted" and "Restricted" rifles as "Prohibited". Gives RCMP greater leeway to reclassify and prohibit any firearm.

Criminalization

Criminalizing an estimated 15,000 honest people by reclassifying their rifles to "Prohibited" with no way to inform them. Owners may not learn their firearms were "Prohibited" until they are arrested, charged and must defend themselves in court.

Registration and Connection Tracking

Makes it a crime to buy, sell or give away a firearm without authorization and a reference number from the RCMP Registrar of Firearms. Creates a "connections registry" of who you talk to about transferring guns.

No Oversight

Removes government's ability to overrule RCMP firearm-classification errors, making it easier for police to ban more firearms.

If You Have Limited Time

Read the complete list of Talking Points on Bill C-71, which the Canadian Shooting Sports Association has nicknamed *The Firearms Owners Harassment Act,* in Appendix 1.

- Pick one point.
- Write a letter to the Minister of Public Safety and ask him one question about it.
- Address your letter to him in Ottawa.
- Drop your envelope in the mailbox. It's free.[1]

See Chapter 5, How to Stop Bill C-71, for complete details on who you should address your letters and who to send copies of those letters.

Sample Letter

To: Minister of Public Safety Ralph Goodale

Dear Minister Goodale,

I'm writing to you to register my opposition to Bill C-71, *The Firearms Owners Harassment Act*, and to ask a question.

[See Appendix 1 for question to insert here]

Thank you in advance for your response.

Yours sincerely,

[Your Full Name]
[Your City, Province]
[Your Postal Code]

cc. PM Justin Trudeau, MP Marc Serré, MP Bob Zimmer, MP Gudie Hutchings, MP Larry Bagnell, Wayne Easter, [Your MP]

If You Have a Little More Time

Write More Letters, Make More Phone Calls

Bill C-71 must pass two major hurdles before it can become law. This is why it is critical to contact every member of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security and the Senate to express your views.

See Chapter 5, How to Stop Bill C-71, for more details and complete contact information for the committee and the Senate.

The Petition

You can also sign Petition e-1608[2] at the House of Commons website. Point your web browser here: ScrapC71.ca.

Dedication

This book is dedicated to every person who values their rights and freedoms enough to spend their precious time defending those rights and freedoms.

We need more of you.

Acknowledgments

The authors acknowledge the support of the **Canadian Shooting Sports Association**. Their support made the free distribution of this book possible.

We also thank former MP **Garry Breitkreuz** for writing the Foreword. For over 20 years Mr. Breitkreuz defended the Canadian firearm community from adversaries in the House of Commons and in the Conservative Party. We are forever in your debt, Garry.

Special Thanks

Dr. Caillin Langmann and Dr. Gary Mauser for their peer-reviewed research and submissions to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security. Their research made writing this book so much easier.

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The authors also wish to thank the thousands of gunnies who support and encourage us on social media and through email subscriptions. We are grateful to all those who took the time to explain issues and nuances to us so we could explain them better to others.

This book would not exist without them.

Go to StopC71.com for Book Updates

Don't Read This Book If...

We wrote this book for every Canadian man, woman and youth who has any interest in firearms. Not only the 2.1 million firearm holders of Possession and Acquisition Licences, but also their families and friends who support, hunt or shoot with them.

This book is against Bill C-71 and its proponents.

This book is not for or against any political party. The track record of every party is stained when it comes to defending the rights of gun owners.

Don't read this book if

- You don't value your freedoms, your rights or your firearms.
- You don't mind bad policies that hurt good people.
- You don't want to stand up for your rights or speak out about what matters to you.

If you identify with one of the items on the list, please throw this book away immediately. You will not enjoy it because we value our freedom, rights and firearms and we advocate tirelessly for them.

If you're still reading, thank you and welcome.

Let's get to work.

Foreword

Very few books are written about legislation before it is passed. In fact, this may be a first of its kind in Canada in at least a generation.

More than 20 years ago, the government introduced legislation to make firearm ownership more difficult. That was Bill C-68, passed into law in 1995 as the *Firearms Act*. Today we face another critical time in our legislative history.

Bill C-71 detrimentally affects one of the largest identifiable groups in Canada and the government is not telling the truth about it.

This book arms us for our battle against Bill C-71.

The authors encourage political action and explain how to participate in the political process in an easy-to-understand manner.

I encourage you to get involved, inform yourself by reading this book and inform those around you by giving them a copy.

If we all do a little bit we can, once again, make a big difference.

I thank the authors for their excellence in presenting the relevant information in simple, non-technical language.

Keep on marching!

Garry Breitkreuz
Former Member of Parliament for Yorkton-Melville, Saskatchewan

“I’ve grown up as a competitive shooter. The calm and the peace, and the mental acuity, and the drive and determination that has been brought into my life has been such a positive influence.”

— Lynda Kiejko,[3] Team Canada Pistol Shooter, 2016 Summer Olympics, in an interview with TheGunBlog.ca, July 2016

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Dear Prime Minister,
Why are you blaming me for gang crime?
ISSF
StopC71.com

Introduction

For the first time in a generation, the government introduced new legislation to restrict law-abiding hunters, farmers, firearm collectors and sport shooters. Introduced on March 20, 2018, the government said Bill C-71, An Act to amend certain Acts and Regulations in relation to firearms, is in response to violent criminals and gangs, yet every part of it targets lawful, licensed, legitimate firearm owners.

If passed, Bill C-71 will make it

- Tougher for licensed people to get and keep a firearm licence.
- Tougher for licensed men and women to buy and keep firearms.
- Tougher for lawful, licensed citizens to protect themselves from secret RCMP firearm reclassifications that turn honest firearm owners into criminals.

Information is the first step. Understanding how Bill C-71 harasses lawful firearm owners is key.

In the pages ahead you will learn

- How Bill C-71 hurts you
- How the RCMP classifies firearms
- How the government is using misleading information to sell Bill C-71
- How to write to your Member of Parliament with specific templates
- The Wanstalls gun store ad that inspired thousands
- Why petitions are ineffective
- Why MPs believe the government will fast-track Bill C-71
- Why MPs think Bill C-71 is not a done deal
- Five effective actions you can take to oppose Bill C-71

Action is the second step.

Once you know how Bill C-71 affects you and the tactics used by government to market this legislation, we put forward a simple plan of action on how to fight back. No matter how little time you have to spare, you can take the most effective action possible to stop Bill C-71. If all you have is one minute, we provide you a sample script for a 1-minute phone call to the Minister of Public Safety.

What If You Think Bill C-71 Is a Done Deal?

The government has a majority of seats in the House of Commons and broad support in the Senate. Bill C-71 might pass. It might even pass by June 30, 2018, 103 days after it was introduced.

It might also be defeated if millions of hunters, shooters, our families and friends stand up and oppose it.

Come Out of the Gun Closet

Regardless of what happens, this book gives you powerful tools for political action at any level. It's geared towards federal politics and Bill C-71, but you can apply the same principles to any level of government, on any issue.

Too many gun owners have hidden in the gun closet for too long. It's time for us to stand up and speak up. This book tells you how.

We Can Win This

Why are we so optimistic we can win this battle? Two reasons.

First, governments drop or scale back plans when the blow-back from voters is strong enough and loud enough.

Second, we've won victories before. In 2012 we persuaded the government of the day to dismantle a database of rifles and shotguns and who owned them, the so-called "Long-Gun Registry." That registry squandered more than $2 billion, with no evidence it improved personal or public safety and, while it took 17 years and a change in government, we shocked the world with this incredible achievement.

We Want Good Policy

Canadians want our legislators to pass effective laws based on sound principles, fair practices, backed by valid research and evidence.

Bill C-71 fails on all counts. It isn't based on evidence, it won't stop a single criminal, and it unfairly treats federally licensed hunters and sport shooters.

Opposition to the bill is widespread and includes parliamentarians, policy-makers, legal experts and advocates for civil liberties, many of whom are not interested in firearms. They just want good public policy.

Even non-shooters recognize Bill C-71 is wrongheaded from the get-go. You don't stop "bad guys" by cracking down on "good guys."

Political Action

This is a book of political action, the key word being "action."

If you value your guns, you will take the actions necessary to defend your guns.

It's that simple.

“There are lots of problems with Bill C-71. My main concern is how it affects responsible firearm owners.”

— Allan Harding, 2016 and 2017 Canadian National Pistol Champion
in an interview with TheGunBlog.ca, May 2017

1. First Principles

More Canadian adults have firearm licences than play hockey

Canada has 2.1 million men and women with federal firearm licences and, according to Statistics Canada, 1.3 million[4] hockey players.

To obtain a firearm licence you must take an RCMP-approved safety course, pass a written and practical exam, pass a police background check. Then you must pass a daily RCMP background check.

In addition, millions of our unlicensed family and friends also shoot lawfully, safely and responsibly. To play hockey you must have a stick and skates. Maybe some pads and a jersey if you want to look serious about it.

Laws don't stop deliberate criminals

Laws allow us to prosecute and punish violent criminals if they're caught, generally after the crime. Procedural laws and regulations aimed at law-abiding citizens do not to stop them. Violent criminals avoid police background checks. They don't apply for police-issued firearm licences. They don't shop in gun stores. They don't apply for Authorizations To Transport firearms en route to a murder. The only people who will respect Bill C-71 are the 2.1 million lawful, licensed shooters who don't need to be controlled in the first place.

Licensed firearm owners are not criminals

Canada's firearm licence and certification system provides decades of evidence to prove licensed firearm owners are far less likely than the general public to commit crimes, especially violent crimes. By taking aim at this highly-vetted group, Bill C-71 could not be further off the mark.

All firearms and lawful firearm owners are strictly regulated

Canadian law classifies firearms as "Non-Restricted," "Restricted" and "Prohibited." These words, in the context of the *Firearms Act*, do not mean what they do in everyday use. In the *Firearms Act* these terms are misleading. All firearm ownership in Canada is severely restricted, yet with the proper licence it is still legal to own "Prohibited" firearms.

Decades of policy failure

Empirical and statistical studies show Canada's firearm policies for at least the past four decades have been a failure. Canadians have paid a high price in dollars, in unjust treatment, and in eroded trust in the government and federal police, all without any evidence of improved personal or public safety. Bill C-71, in its present form, will extend this disastrous and embarrassing track record.

Use the right approach

Legislation, regulation and other policy tools can be useful in the right circumstances, when the right approach is used and intended and unintended consequences are factored in. Bill C-71 fails in this regard.

It legislates against one of the most law-abiding segments of Canadian society while ignoring violent criminals and their use of firearms.

We are surrounded by firearms every day

Almost 100,000 Canadians, mainly police, are authorized to carry loaded firearms on their person every day to keep themselves, the public and our property safe. If they were all on duty at once, it would be equivalent to about 3 people carrying firearms for every 1,000 adults. Firearms carried by good people are an asset, not a liability. See Appendix 11.

Should we punish all Canadians for gang violence?

When the government chooses to impose new laws on all 36 million Canadians because it fails to manage a gang problem, it treats every one of us as a potential criminal. That is neither useful nor fair.

Where is the evidence?

The lack of evidence supporting the need for Bill C-71, combined with the lack of evidence of how it might stop a single violent criminal, fly in the face of the government's promise of evidence-based policy.

The government has not provided a single example of how Bill C-71 could prevent violent crime or strengthen public safety.

One Policy Does Not Fit All

At least five groups of people use firearms with completely different motivations, goals and legal/institutional frameworks:

1. Responsible Individuals

Lawful, licensed men and women use firearms to hunt, protect their crops, protect themselves, study history and engineering, practice a hobby, relax or compete. (2.1 million people)

2. Police

Use firearms to defend themselves and the public. (69,000 people)

3. Military

Use firearms for state-sanctioned violence. (95,000 people)

4. Good People Going Through a Bad Time

Mentally or emotionally distressed people driven to use violence against themselves or others. (unknown number of people)

5. People With Bad Intentions

Individuals who intentionally and deliberately threaten, hurt and kill. (unknown number of people)

Group 5 needs to be stopped.

Group 4 needs to be helped.

Groups 1 to 3 should be left alone.

It is impossible to hit the bullseye when you refuse to aim at the target.

Bill C-71 targets the known people of Group 1 and treats them like Group 5. This approach is unsound, unfair, and ineffective. It wastes police resources and taxpayer dollars.

This proposed legislation is a double-misfire. Not only will it fail to achieve its goal of improving public safety, it will also place more restrictions on the people who aren't the problem, Canada's most honest and responsible citizens.

“Gun crime is less than one half of one percent of overall police-reported crime in Canada.”

— Statistics Canada presentation[5] at the National Summit on Gun and Gang Violence in Ottawa, March 7, 2018, hosted by the Minister of Public Safety

2. Bill C-71 Key Points

To Criminalize & Confiscate

Overview

Bill C-71 proposes to turn an estimated 10,000 to 15,000 men and women into potential criminals.

The bill changes the legal status of their "Non-Restricted" and "Restricted" rifles to "Prohibited" and, should they fail to register them with the RCMP on time, threatens them with prison.

The owners might not be aware their firearms were reclassified until they are behind bars. If they learn about the change in time to get the paperwork to keep their rifles, the authorities will wait until they are dead before the rifles are confiscated.

Current Status

Canadians bought several models of Ceska Zbrojovka (CZ) and SAN Swiss Arms rifles based on the RCMP's opinion they were "Non-Restricted" or "Restricted" rifles. In 2014, the RCMP reclassified them as "Prohibited."

The government of the day rejected the RCMP's opinion and allowed the owners to keep their property and put a one-year limit on future RCMP reclassifications.

Bill C-71 Effect

Immediately reclassifies those rifles as “Prohibited.” The government hasn't indicated how it will notify as many as 15,000 owners of the change to help them avoid 10 years in prison. If the current owners get the paperwork right, they may be allowed to keep their rifles until they die. After that, the firearms must be sold abroad or turned over to police for confiscation and destruction.

Analysis

If these firearms are so dangerous, why is the government waiting decades to confiscate and destroy them? If these licensed firearm owners are so dangerous, why are they not already imprisoned?

Turning honest men and women into criminals and forcing the loss of their property after death serves no purpose relevant to personal or public safety.

Because no compensation is paid, this robs surviving family members of their legitimate inheritance. Our laws hurt legal firearm owners and their families, and gradually confiscate their guns.

StopC71.com

"RCMP Mistake Eraser" Repealed

Overview

Bill C-71 ends the government's ability to stop the RCMP from banning your firearms today and hauling you off to prison tomorrow for illegal possession of a "Prohibited" firearm.

The Canadian Shooting Sports Association refers to this section of law as the "RCMP Mistake Eraser."

Current Status

The previous government created a way to override the 2014 RCMP firearm prohibitions through Section 117.15(3) and (4) of the *Criminal Code*. It made the change after the federal police turned an estimated 15,000 lawful citizens into criminals overnight by secretly reclassifying their "Non-Restricted" and "Restricted" rifles as "Prohibited." Many owners of CZ 858 and SAN Swiss Arms rifles owned these guns for more than a decade.

Bill C-71 Effect

Repeals the government's ability to overrule the RCMP's firearm classifications by a simple procedure known as an Order in Council.

Analysis

This part of Bill C-71 is so controversial, complex, and misunderstood we dedicated Chapter 4 to the RCMP's role in classifying firearms.

The government, in its press release for Bill C-71, said the RCMP's technical experts should be left to interpret and enforce firearm classification rules "without political influence."

But that is not true.

The Minister of Public Safety can, via an Order in Council, prohibit any (or every) firearm in Canada at any time. And the government controls the RCMP through its power to hire and appoint the chief, set their priorities, and fire them.

This is as it should be.

The armed agents of the state should be subordinate to Parliament.

Opponents say Bill C-71 eliminates a layer of protection against the police overreach currently built into Canada's firearm legislation, Section 117.15(3) and (4) of the *Criminal Code*. It wipes out the "RCMP Mistake Eraser."

The way the government and RCMP work together to interpret the *Firearms Act* and the *Criminal Code*, two seemingly contradictory statements are true:

1. The government makes the rules and the RCMP interprets and enforces them.

2. The RCMP makes and enforces the rules.

If Bill C-71 passes as written, the RCMP will be able to, once again, prohibit your firearms today, show up tomorrow to confiscate them and lock you up.

Section 12(9)
The Federal Firearms Incinerator

Overview

Bill C-71 creates an easy way to ban firearms at any time, in slow motion, by waiting until we die until they are confiscated. It can be messy to seize firearms from the living. It is a lot easier to dispossess the dead.

Current Status

The federal government can prohibit any (or every) firearm at any time through a simple procedure known as an Order in Council.

This would create criminals in illegal possession of "Prohibited" firearms, making them eligible for prison and their firearms eligible for confiscation.

Section 12 of the *Firearms Act* lists several categories of people allowed to keep their newly "Prohibited" firearms until they die, at which time the government confiscates and destroys them. About 50,000 Canadians own "Prohibited" firearms.

The classes of "Prohibited" firearm owners are based on the firearm's operation, dimensions and arbitrary decisions.

For example, Section 12(2) covers people who owned automatic firearms before 1978. Section 12(6) is for people who own handguns with barrels of 105 mm or less, and .25 and .32 calibre, and Section 12(5) includes owners of an arbitrary list of banned firearms.

Bill C-71 Effect

Creates an open, catch-all category without any criteria for owners of "Prohibited" firearms under the new Section 12(9).

Analysis

"This sets the stage for future gun bans," said Tony Bernardo, executive director of the Canadian Shooting Sports Association. "Section 12(9) is the Canadian Federal Firearms Incinerator. It paves the way for the annihilation of civilian ownership of firearms."

"Confiscation is deferred, for now," he continued. "Owners still get to shoot their guns, but only at the discretion of the Chief Firearms Office, which may change at the drop of a bureaucratic hat. How do you boil a frog alive? Slowly. Raise the temperature so imperceptibly the frog doesn't notice."

Bernardo said SKS, AR-15 and Ruger Mini-14 rifles are possible targets for bans.

See Appendix: Section 12 Firearm Ownership Deciphered, for a full overview of all Section 12 categories.

Dangerous Liaisons, aka Data Mining Gun Owner Connections

Overview

Bill C-71 creates both a gun registry (more than a thousand of them, in fact) and a connections registry. This is one of the most invasive and sinister elements contained in the bill. The RCMP will know everyone who is in contact with anyone to legally buy, sell or transfer firearms, whether or not the transfer is completed.

Current Status

You need an RCMP-authorized firearm licence to buy or own a gun lawfully in Canada. To transfer ownership of "Non-Restricted" firearms you must have a federal firearm licence.

For "Restricted" and "Prohibited" classes of firearms you also require specific permission from the RCMP's Canadian Firearms Program for each transfer, and you must register the firearm with the federal police.

Bill C-71 Effect

You will require permission from the RCMP Registrar of Firearms to buy, sell or give any "Non-Restricted" rifle or shotgun to anyone.

The seller must request permission on a website or by phone, provide the Possession and Acquisition Licence number for both the seller and the buyer. If the transfer is approved, the seller will receive a reference number, valid for a limited time to complete the transfer.

How long?

The government has not said.

Even if the transfer is approved, the buyer or seller can change their minds and stop the deal. The federal police will not know which firearm was discussed or if the transfer was completed. They will know who discussed it.

Analysis

Canada's firearm licensing system is controversial, but proves licensed firearm owners are among the safest, most law-abiding, responsible people in the country.

If the goal of Bill C-71 is to ensure the validity of the firearm buyer's

Possession and Acquisition Licence, as the Minister of Public Safety says, all we would need is a website to enter a licence number and maybe the licence holder's birth date or postal code, and wait for a message to say either "Valid" or "Invalid." It could also generate a reference number to prove the date you ran the check.

The goal of Bill C-71 is not to validate licences, but to (1) track the movement of "Non-Restricted" firearms between owners and (2) create a network map of who talks to whom about transferring firearms.

Imagine you must place all your communications through an RCMP-owned phone or e-mail system. The police promise they will not record what you say, only who you are saying it to so they can check the credentials of your conversation partners.

The only people who will use this system are honest firearm owners, the people we don't need to track. It will not stop a single criminal because criminals do not contact the federal police for permission to break the law.

Bill C-71 proposes to stop violent criminals and gangs by monitoring the communications and interactions of honest people. If passed, it will implement an unsound, unwarranted and unjust violation of individual privacy for the country's most-vetted, most-monitored, most-scrutinized and most trustworthy men and women.

It's Still a Gun Registry

Overview

The government has repeatedly promised to not recreate a "long-gun registry," a database of rifles, shotguns and their licensed owners. It's using Bill C-71 to force every gun store to do it instead.

Current Status

Most gun stores keep records of who bought what to help with marketing and warranties.

Section 102 of the *Firearms Act* gives the Chief Firearms Officer the power to inspect and copy any and every store record at any time without a warrant. Some lawyers suspect the data may be shared with the federal government and police. In some provinces, the RCMP designates or employs the Chief Firearms Officer.

Section 101 of the *Criminal Code* makes improper record keeping a crime punishable by five years in prison. Department of Justice lawyer Paula Clarke made this clear on May 8 in testimony to the House of Commons committee reviewing Bill C-71.[6]

Bill C-71 Effect

Firearm retailers must create, manage and keep a registry of licensed buyers of "Non-Restricted" firearms and of the firearms they bought for at least 20 years. They will run the registry on behalf of the government, and if a business shuts down, it must surrender the records to the authorities.

Analysis

Get ready for more delays and more costs, as stores wait for RCMP authorization to sell firearms, and pass any additional staffing or record-keeping expenses onto clients.

The pretext to impose new procedures and paperwork on more than 2 million lawful, licensed, legitimate men and women who buy roughly 1,000 firearms a day is to help police trace guns caught on criminals.

The RCMP does this today. With 2 phone calls, 10 minutes and the make, model and serial number of a firearm, the RCMP Firearms Tracing Centre can determine:

1. The factory that made the firearm
2. The date it was made
3. The date it was shipped

4. The date it entered Canada
5. The date it cleared customs
6. The importer
7. The store it went to
8. The date it was sold
9. In most cases, the buyer
10. If it is a “Restricted” or “Prohibited” firearm, the police also know the name and address of every owner since.

The decentralized store registry repeats the mistakes of the federal long-gun registry, with a twist. Like it’s predecessor, it sets up an expensive tracking system of people who don’t need to be tracked. Except this time, the government is forcing honest gun owners to pay for it.

Authorization To Transport

Overview

Bill C-71 would re-create the wasteful and useless procedures and paperwork ended by the previous government for Authorizations To Transport (ATT) "Restricted" and "Prohibited" firearms.

Current Status

Section 19 of the *Firearms Act* makes it a crime for licensed firearm owners to take their "Restricted" or "Prohibited" firearms out of the house without appropriate Authorizations To Transport.

The previous government addressed this unnecessary procedure by automatically attaching Authorizations To Transport to licences so individuals could travel between six types of destinations:

1. Home and shooting range in the same province.
2. Police station or Chief Firearms Officer for verification, registration or disposal.
3. Gunsmith for repair or gun store for the purposes of appraisal or sale.
4. Gun show.
5. Border point (e.g. border crossing or international airport).
6. From place where you purchase a firearm to home.

Bill C-71 Effect

Would revoke all Authorizations To Transport and make it a crime to take "Restricted" or "Prohibited" firearms out of the house without a specific Authorization To Transport issued at the discretion of your province's Chief Firearms Officer. The only exceptions are

1. To travel to and from the shooting range
2. To take a firearm home from the store after purchase.

Analysis

The current government treats the licensed firearm owner who travels to a gun show, a gun store, a gunsmith, or to a border crossing as a threat to "public safety."

Decades of experience shows the process to issue Authorizations To Transport firearms is frustrating, redundant, wasteful and useless for public safety.

No would-be murderer has ever contacted their Chief Firearms Officer to request an Authorization To Transport their guns to shoot up a shopping mall, a school, or a rival drug dealer. The only people who request ATTs and therefore, the only people who are refused them, are licensed sport shooters seeking to travel to approved destinations.

"The ATT should be repealed as a costly and redundant control of firearms," Caillin Langmann,[7] a researcher and medical doctor at McMaster University in Ontario, said in his report on Bill C-71 for a government committee reviewing the proposed legislation. Firearm owners should be allowed to take firearms to any place where we can safely store, repair, sell or discharge them, he said.

Lifetime Background Checks: No Benefit to Public Safety

Overview

Bill C-71 could lead to the revocation of existing firearm Possession and Acquisition Licences as background checks expand to cover a person's entire lifetime, instead of focusing on the previous five years. Those individuals would be forced to sell their firearms or forfeit them to the government for destruction. Some people will be denied licences entirely.

Current Status

Section 5(1) of the *Firearms Act* gives power to the authorities to refuse or revoke someone's firearm licence "in the interests of the safety of that or any other person." Section 5(2) says authorities should look for criminal or violent behaviour "within the previous five years."

Bill C-71 Effect

Removes "within the previous five years," from section 5(2) of the *Firearms Act*.

Analysis

Expanding background checks beyond five years does not benefit public safety, according to research by Caillin Langmann,[8] an assistant professor and medical doctor at McMaster University.

The last time background checks were broadened in the 1990s with questions on mental health and spousal relations, no effects on homicide or spousal homicide rates were found, he said in his briefing note to a government committee reviewing Bill C-71.

The Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada[9] expressed concerns about both the "usefulness" and breadth of licence applications as well as their "highly intrusive" personal questions, according to a 2001 review of the licensing system.

Lifetime checks may result in current firearm owners losing their licences as police dig up personal events from decades ago. Others may decide to not renew their licences and give up their firearms, rather than divulge details that could be held against them in the renewal process.

"Background checks increased beyond five years will not result in decreased homicide or suicide by firearm and should not be performed," Langmann said in his April 2018 report.[7]

"As well questions involving past suicide, depression and emotional problems, divorce, separation job loss, and bankruptcy should be removed as per the Privacy Act."

Dear Prime Minister,
Why are you blaming me for gang crime?
FIELD &
StopC71.com

3. Firearm Classification 101

More Than Just an Opinion: How the RCMP Classifies, Criminalizes and Confiscates

One of the most complex, controversial and misunderstood parts of Canada's firearm regime is the RCMP's role in classifying firearms as "Non-Restricted," "Restricted" or "Prohibited."

In theory, the RCMP provides a technical opinion of how a firearm should be classified based on criteria, definitions and rules in the law, namely the *Criminal Code* and the *Firearms Act*. That is why some people say the RCMP does not classify or reclassify firearms. The government makes the laws, and the RCMP interprets and enforces them.

In practice, the RCMP classifies firearms by giving its opinion. Government agencies, the firearm industry and individual firearm owners align their own policies and practices with the RCMP's interpretation. If the federal police say a firearm is "Prohibited," you cannot get permission to import, buy, sell or own it.

The federal police can also determine a "Non-Restricted" firearm today should be "Prohibited" tomorrow, and can confiscate it from you and throw you in prison for illegal possession.

This is how the RCMP acts as rule-maker and rule-enforcer.

The RCMP makes classification and reclassification decisions in secret and publishes their rulings to the Firearms Reference Table (FRT), a database accessible only to those authorized by the RCMP. This is distressing for anyone who values openness and transparency.

"Such firearms classification redetermination decisions by the RCMP have far reaching legal implications for law abiding firearm owners, including the potential for loss of lawfully acquired property and criminal liability," the Ministry of Public Safety[10] said Aug. 28, 2014, in the Canada Gazette in response to the RCMP's secret reclassification of CZ 858 and SAN Swiss Arms rifles. This reclassification instantly turned an estimated 10,000 to 15,000 lawful firearm owners into criminals in possession of "Prohibited" firearms.

In 2017, the RCMP decided that, after six decades of importation and circulation, cartridge magazines for the Ruger 10/22 rifle, possibly the most-popular firearm in Canada, capable of holding more than 10 rounds of ammunition were now "Prohibited" devices. This reclassification instantly threatened hundreds of thousands of honest men and women with prison. The Canadian Shooting Sports Association is currently exploring options to sue the government for compensation if they try to confiscate these magazines.

In practice, the opinion of an unelected and unaccountable RCMP firearm technician has the weight of law. If you have $30,000 and two years of your life to devote to a court challenge, you can, and you might win, but challenges are rare because the Crown Prosecutor drops the charges to avoid setting a precedent in favour of gun owners and against the RCMP Firearms Lab.

Today, the government can easily overrule the RCMP's classification decisions and stop them from causing loss of property and criminal liability with the stroke of a pen. Bill C-71 eliminates that stopping power.

StopC71.com

“What we don’t know: the origin of firearms involved in gun crime in Canada.”

— Statistics Canada presentation[11] at the National Summit on Gun and Gang Violence in Ottawa, March 7, 2018, hosted by the Minister of Public Safety

4. The Misinformation Campaign

Inventing a Problem

Government Statement

"Firearm-related homicides in Canada have been steadily increasing, reaching a total of 223 in 2016, 44 more than the previous year."[12]

Considerations

This statement tells the truth, but not the whole truth. It leaves out two critical words.

> Firearm-related homicides in Canada have been steadily increasing **since 2013**, reaching a total of 223 in 2016, 44 more than the previous year.

Canada's homicide rate, steadily falling for decades, hit a 50-year low in 2013. This was also the lowest year for fatal shootings in the history of Statistics Canada. Since 2013, driven primarily by gang murders, the homicide rate rose in each of the following three years.

"The year 2013 is an outlier," said Gary Mauser,[13] professor emeritus in the Institute for Canadian Urban Research Studies at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia.

Using 2013 as its base for comparison allowed the government to say

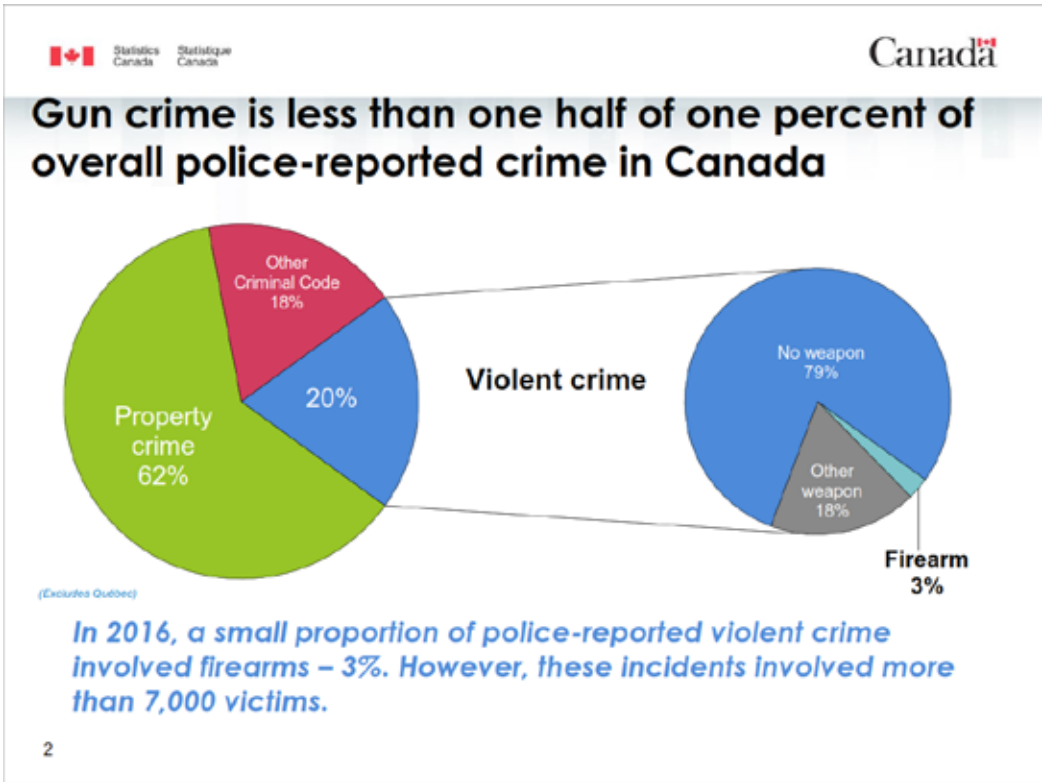
violent crime is on the rise. The claim is as accurate as it is misleading.

Canada may have a violent criminal gang problem, but not a gun problem. Not one word of Bill C-71 addresses this issue. Instead, it blames Canada's 2.1 million honest, responsible and federally licensed firearm owners for the actions of a few thousand violent criminals.

Not only is the government going after the wrong target with Bill C-71, it is also promoting the legislation through an avalanche of half-truths, misinformation, misrepresentations and misleading statements.

If the Minister of Public Safety's goal was, as he claimed in his press conference following the Summit on Gun and Gang Violence, "to end the scourge of criminal gun and gang violence in our communities,"[14] why not address criminals head-on?

Inventing a Scapegoat



Government Statement

"The fact is, gun violence has risen in this country, and is a clear threat to public safety."[15]

— Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, promoting Bill C-71 on Twitter on March 20, 2018, the day it was introduced to Parliament.

"While Canada is one of the safest countries in the world, increased gun crime has caused too much violence and taken too many lives in communities of all kinds. It has tragically claimed innocent bystanders, children and police officers from coast to coast."[16]

— Minister of Public Safety Ralph Goodale, March 20, 2018, press release announcing Bill C-71

Considerations

"Gun crime is less than one half of one percent of overall police-reported crime in Canada."[17]

— Lynn Barr-Telford, Director-General Health, Justice and Special Surveys, Statistics Canada, presentation to the National Summit on Gun and Gang Violence in Ottawa, March 7, 2018, hosted by Minister of Public Safety.

Prime Minister Trudeau's Tweet on PALs

Government Statement

"We're also introducing stronger and more rigorous background checks on gun sales. And if you want to buy a gun, by law you'll have to show a licence at the point of purchase. Right now that's not a requirement."[18]

Considerations

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau drew a storm of criticism for this tweet, but he is correct. Sort of.

The *Firearms Act* doesn't require a buyer to show their firearms Possession and Acquisition Licence. It says the buyer must have a valid licence, and the seller mustn't have a reason to doubt its validity.

Section 23 of the Act says:

Authorized Transfers

23 A person may transfer a non-restricted firearm if, at the time of the transfer,

(a) the transferee holds a licence authorizing the transferee to acquire and possess that kind of firearm; and

(b) the transferor has no reason to believe that the transferee is not authorized to acquire and possess that kind of firearm.

Criminal Code sections 101 and 117.11 make it clear the onus is on the seller to ensure the buyer's licence is valid.

In reality, most gun stores will not show you a firearm until you show them your licence. It may not be a legal requirement, but it is the business's requirement. If you buy the firearm, you'll probably have to show your licence again, and there's a good chance the seller will record your details. For many firearms, they have to.

Trudeau's tweet isn't totally false, just totally misleading.

See TheGunBlog.ca's full article on this at:

https://thegunblog.ca/2018/03/21/trudeau-tweet-on-pals-isnt-totally-false-just-totally-wrong/

Stop Gang Crime by Blaming Everyone But Gangs?

Government Statement

"The safety and security of Canadians is my top priority. I am committed to working with all levels of government and community organizations to end the scourge of criminal gun and gang violence in our communities and to bring forward effective firearm legislation that prioritizes public safety while ensuring fair treatment for law-abiding firearms owners."[19]

— Minister of Public Safety Ralph Goodale, March 7, 2018. Press release following Summit on Gun and Gang Violence

Considerations

We may share the government's sentiments, but it is heavy on talk, light on evidence.

The increased restrictions, verifications, authorizations, prohibitions and confiscations on law-abiding firearm owners are the opposite of "fair treatment."

After almost three years of preparation, the government hasn't given a single example of how any of these measures will stop violent criminals and disarm gangs.

Gun Store Gun Registries Belong to the Government

Government Statement

"The requirement for retailers to maintain their own private records is just that: they're private records of the retailers, and they will not be accessible to government."[20]

– Minister of Public Safety Ralph Goodale, Mar 20, 2018. CBC interview following Summit on Gun and Gang Violence

"These records would be held by the business only – not law enforcement or government."[21]

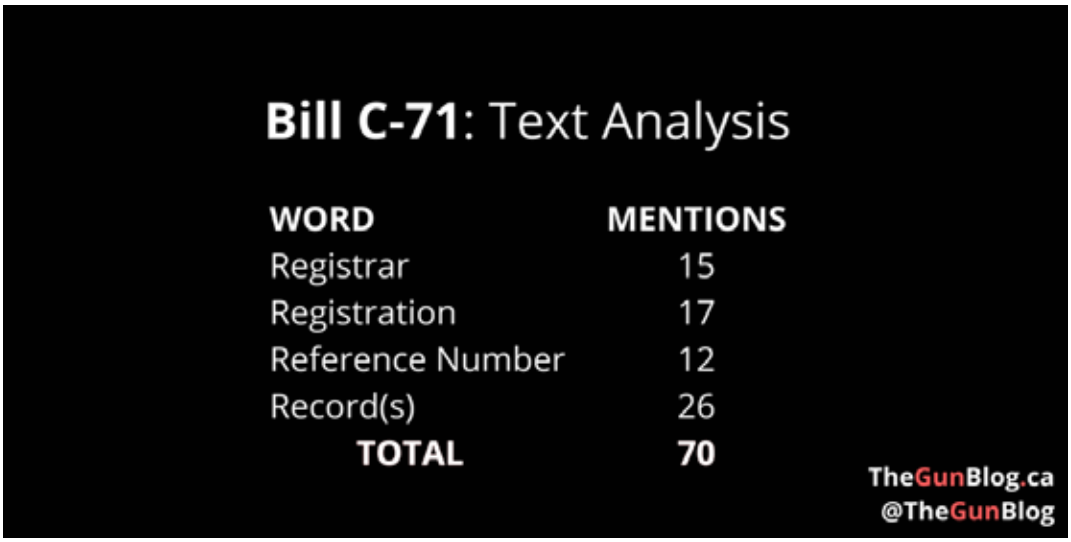
– New Measures on Firearms, Ministry of Public Safety Website

Considerations

Section 102 of the *Firearms Act* grants a province's Chief Firearms Officer full access to all store records and inventories, at any time, and they may make copies of any record they find, without explanation or justification.

Bill C-71 does not repeal Section 102 of the *Firearms Act*, therefore the Minister is not being honest when he says these records "will not be accessible to government" or says a search warrant is required to obtain them.

The 'It's Not a Long-Gun Registry' Long-Gun Registry



Government Statement

"There is no element of a long-gun registry contained in this legislation."[22]

"… it's simply not a federal long-gun registry, full stop, period."[23]

– Minister of Public Safety Ralph Goodale, Mar 20, 2018. CBC interview following Summit on Gun and Gang Violence

Considerations

A Registrar registers registrations in a registry.

Bill C-71 mentions "Registrar" 15 times, "registration" 17 times, "reference number" 12 times, and "record" or "records" 26 times.

Bill C-71 requires gun stores to manage registries containing the following information on every sale of a "Non-restricted" shotgun or rifles: the buyer's firearm licence number, the reference number issued by the RCMP Registrar of Firearms authorizing each sale, the date the Registrar issued the reference number, and the make, model, type, and serial number of every long gun sold in Canada.

The "Grandfathering" Hoax

Government Statement

"In the interests of fairness, we will grandfather the ownership of these particular firearms so innocent third parties are not put offside with the law through no fault of their own."[24]

— Minister of Public Safety Ralph Goodale, March 26, 2018, Introduction of Bill C-71 into the House of Commons

Considerations

Confiscating your property after you die isn't "grandfathering."

It's "confiscating."

The delayed confiscation offered by Bill C-71 allows the government and the Minister of Public Safety to avoid stirring up a hornet's nest of opposition or pay the political price for immediate firearm confiscation.

Let's call Bill C-71 what it is: firearm confiscation.

Bill C-71 reclassifies an estimated 10,000 to 15,000 "Non-Restricted" or "Restricted" rifles as "Prohibited" and turns their owners into criminals unless they comply with new ownership requirements.

To avoid confiscating firearms immediately and igniting a firestorm of opposition, the government allows existing owners who get the right paperwork to keep their property through a so-called "grandfather clause."

Then, our federal police force waits until after the owner dies before confiscating their firearms.

Seizing guns from their owners while they are still alive can get messy.

With Bill C-71, the government bribes gun owners with the prospect of keeping their firearms until they die in exchange for their acquiescence to a new bad law.

Delayed confiscation is still confiscation.

Trusting RCMP "Experts" and Their Mistakes

Government Statement

"The fourth important public safety measure included in this bill has to do with ensuring the impartial, professional, accurate, and consistent classification of firearms by RCMP experts."[25]

— Minister of Public Safety Ralph Goodale, speech to House of Commons, March 26, 2018

Considerations

The RCMP originally classified several models of CZ 858 and SAN Swiss Arms rifles as "Non-Restricted" firearms. About a decade later they reclassified them as "Prohibited" firearms.

The RCMP classified the Mossberg Blaze 47[26] rifle as a "Prohibited" firearm and classified the Mossberg Blaze[27] as a "Non-Restricted" firearm. They are the same rifle. The Blaze 47 is a semi-automatic .22 rimfire rifle. It fires a single bullet with each press of the trigger and cannot be converted into an automatic rifle. It is identical to the Mossberg Blaze in every way except one – its stock makes it look like the AK-47, and is therefore labeled "Prohibited."

Likewise, the RCMP classified the Armi Jager AP-80 .22 calibre rifle as a "Prohibited" firearm for its resemblance to an AK-47, but the RCMP classified the identical rifle with a stock that resembles an AR-15 rifle, the Armi Jager AP-74, as a "Non-Restricted" firearm.

"Without Political Influence"

Government Statement

"The Government of Canada is proposing to ensure the impartial, professional, accurate and consistent classification of firearms as either "non-restricted", "restricted" or "prohibited" - by restoring a system in which Parliament defines the classes but entrusts experts in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) to classify firearms, without political influence."[28]

— Government website introducing Bill C-71, March 20, 2018.

Considerations

The RCMP is defined by political influence.

The government names the head of the RCMP. The government sets priorities for the head of the RCMP. The government manages the head of the RCMP. The government can fire the head of the RCMP.

In addition, the *Criminal Code* gives the government the power to classify any firearm at any time as "Prohibited," regardless of the RCMP's classification. The government can also classify firearms by a simple procedure known as an Order in Council.

Bill C-71 removes the government's ability to overrule mistakes or abuses of firearm classifications by the RCMP.

It's Fair to Violate Rights for 'Justice'

Government Statement

"With this legislation and our other measures, we are taking concrete steps to make our country less vulnerable to the scourge of gun violence, while being fair to responsible, law-abiding firearms owners and businesses."[29]

— Minister of Public Safety Ralph Goodale, press release announcing Bill C-71, March 20, 2018

Considerations

What counts as "fair" depends on who you ask.

The Minister of Justice's Charter Statement,[30] a review to determine if proposed legislation violates the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, found the gun registry in Bill C-71 requires firearm buyers to reveal so much personal and private information that it risks violating Section 8 of the Charter.

S.8 Everyone has the right to be secure against unreasonable search or seizure.

That would make Bill C-71 not only unsound, unnecessary and unjust, but also unconstitutional.

But the Charter includes a wild card in Section 1: The government can strip away any rights and freedoms within "reasonable" limits. The result is a perfect circle: It eliminates the potential for "unreasonable" search and seizure by declaring it "reasonable" in the name of "justice."

"In reviewing the relevant provisions, the Minister has not identified any potential inconsistencies with the principles of fundamental justice," the Ministry of Justice said in a statement on March 22, 2018.

StopC71.com

5. How to Stop Bill C-71

Start With the Most Effective Action

In our hyper-sensitive world it is easy to confuse "busy" with "effective."

Busy includes "liking" a post on Twitter or Facebook, sharing memes and signing petitions.

Effective means doing the most important thing first.

The sky's the limit for what can be effective.

If you have the money and the time, you can buy full-page ads in national newspapers, run ads on TV, hire a plane to fly across the sky with a banner, rent a billboard across the street from your member of parliament's office, and a thousand other things.

Political action means supporting your allies and opposing your foes. Support political candidates who support your interests at the municipal, provincial and federal levels.

They all need volunteers and money.

Here are five quick, easy and effective political action steps recommended by Garry Breitkreuz, the former MP who did more to bring down the so-called "Long-Gun Registry" of rifles and shotguns than any other elected official.

Always Start With the Most Effective Action

If you start with your most effective action and you cannot make time to do anything else, you accomplish the most effective thing possible. If you start with a petition or form letter and discover you are unwilling or unable to do more, you have taken the least effective action and the one most ignored by politicians. That's not the path to success.

1. Hand-write a letter.

This is the most effective action you can take, without exception, Breitkreuz says. If you spell a word wrong, cross it out and keep going. Mail your letter with your corrections in place. Breitkreuz tells everyone willing to listen that a handwritten letter is taken far more seriously than a computer-generated one, and orders of magnitude more seriously than emailed form letters or petitions.

2. Make a phone call.

It takes less than 60 seconds to call your MP's or the Minister of Public Safety's office and express your opinion. The same is true for government ministers.

3. Write a letter on your computer.

A computer-generated letter is considered slightly less effective than a hand-written letter and a phone call because it is easier and takes less effort. Hand-writing a letter takes more time. A phone call takes more courage. Most people feel a little fear or trepidation when faced with the prospect of calling "their betters" on the telephone. Writing a letter on your computer is easier than those two options.

4. Send a form letter.

Sending in a form letter is marginally better than signing a petition. When an issue like Bill C-71 gains traction with citizens, Members of Parliament take notice of the volume of letters they receive.

When the only effort
required is to sign the bottom of a pre-written page, or worse, click a link to send a pre-written email, politicians are rightly skeptical of the sender's commitment to their stated cause. While a hand-written letter counts for 500 votes, they count a form letter as a single vote, if that.

5. Sign a petition.

It doesn't hurt to sign to sign Petition e-1608, a symbol of opposition to Bill C-71, so long as you understand the many downsides of petitions.

First, signing a petition gives the signer a false sense of action - that they have accomplished something when they have not.

Second, politicians know people routinely sign anything, anytime to oppose any issue. Search YouTube for the petition to ban H20 (water) to watch this silliness in action.

Third, they are presented at the end of the day to an empty House of Commons and then filed in the shredder. A few months later, a minister might acknowledge it and politely disregard it.

Fourth, they can backfire.

As this book was being written in mid-May, Petition e-1608 had less than 80,000 signatures out of 2.1 million licensed firearm owners and about 36 million Canadians.

Speak to Politicians in the Only Language They Understand: Votes

To be effective with politicians, you must understand what is important to them and speak their language.

A politician, once elected, cares about one thing: getting re-elected.

Every action they take from the moment they win their seat is focused on ensuring they win their seat again in the next election.

A politician cares about votes.

A party leader cares about seats in the House of Commons.

Both politicians and party leaders care even more about lost votes.

The most effective action you can take to help defeat this proposed legislation is to contact the Minister of Public Safety and politely express your opposition to Bill C-71.

Your letter or phone call registering your opposition tells the government they will lose votes over this bill.

Political Action: Keyword is ACTION

Communication is the key to defeating Bill C-71.

Firearm owners must voice their displeasure to each of their elected representatives in the House of Commons and keep the pressure on until they rescind this legislation.

Days following its introduction, the Canadian Shooting Sports Association published 35 talking points on Bill C-71.

In the two weeks after the talking points were published, individual MPs, including the Minister of Public Safety and Prime Minister's offices, received over 1,600 letters **per day**.

The Ministry of Public Safety's phone lines crashed when firearm owners overloaded the system with calls to express their displeasure with the bill.

This proves the most important word in the phrase "Political Action" is not political — it's "action."

This groundswell of opposition to Bill C-71 is wonderful. However, before we pat ourselves on the back for a job well done, realize politicians have short memories.

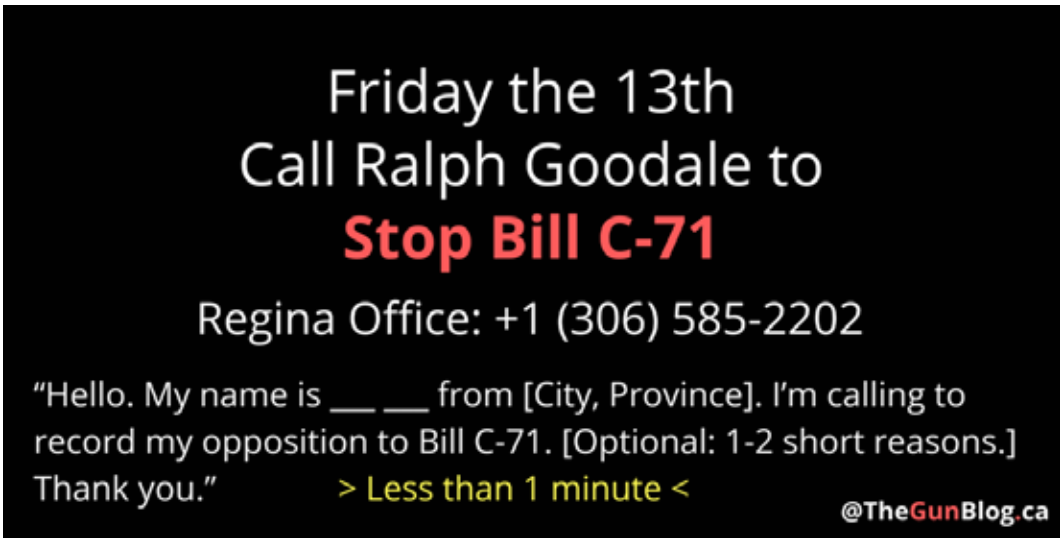
If we do not keep this issue forefront in their minds, politicians forget and move on to the next most-vocal person. Unless we keep our opposition to Bill C-71, loud and public, our elected representatives forget all about us.

The strength of any association, the Canadian Shooting Sports Association included, is its ability to motivate its membership into action.

Our job is to keep the pressure on until this legislation is abandoned, modified or voted down in Parliament.

Call the Minister of Public Safety

The morning of Friday, April 13, 2018, TheGunBlog.ca tweeted the following infographic.[31] It was shared on Twitter, Facebook, Canadian Gun Nutz, Gun Owners of Canada and elsewhere. Gun owners across the country made the phone call.



Is fighting for your rights worth 60 seconds of your time?

If not, do you really value your guns?

Is calling the Minister's office scary? Sure, maybe a little. So was shooting a gun for the first time, but you got over that pretty darned fast, didn't you?

Calling the Minister of Public Safety's office is no different.

In the next chapter, Nicolas Johnson of TheGunBlog.ca describes how easy the call was, despite his anxiety.

Letter Writing 101

Your letter does not need to be long, detailed or well-written.

In fact, a short letter that makes a single point is far better than a long letter covering many points.

For example:

Dear Minister Goodale:

I respectfully call on you to withdraw Bill C-71, *The Firearms Owners Harassment Act*.

Why do you leave violent criminals alone and attack law-abiding citizens instead?

Please respond.

Signed,

Your Name
Full Address

Short, simple and to the point.

Send your email, snail mail or phone message to:

The Hon. Ralph Goodale, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Public Safety
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6
Telephone: 613-947-1153
Fax: 613-996-9790
Email: ralph.goodale@parl.gc.ca

How to Use the Canadian Shooting Sports Association's Talking Points on Bill C-71

Use the CSSA's Talking Points in Appendix 1 to write your letters. It's easy.

Pick one point.

Write one or two paragraphs to the Minister of Public Safety to say how Bill C-71 affects you, why you oppose it, or to ask him one question about your chosen point.

Address your letter to him in Ottawa.

Drop your letter in a mailbox. It's free.

Do it again next week.

Get your friends to do the same. Hold each other accountable to write one letter, every single week between now and the 2019 federal election.

Always Request a Response

Always request a response in your letter. While you will probably receive a canned response, this forces the Minister's office staff to deal with you, if only for five minutes. When they grumble about the thousands of letters they must respond to each week, the Minister and the Prime Minister hear about it.

The point of your letter is not to receive their canned response. The point of your letter is to tell them Bill C-71 will cost them the only thing they value: seats in the House of Commons.

When government gets too much opposition to their plans, they back down.

This government has backed down from every major promise it has made. It could do so again, but only if our MPs hear from us, law-abiding firearm owners who are no threat to public safety, yet are forced to pay for the sins of violent criminals.

Why Sending a Copy of Your Letter to Certain MPs Is Critical

Send a copy of every letter you write to the Minister of Public Safety to these Members of Parliament, postage-free.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

The Prime Minister limited debate on Bill C-71 to ram it through Parliament. Tell him it will not work.

Marc Serré

Chair of the Liberal Rural Caucus, which includes 54 government MPs from rural ridings. He needs to know Bill C-71 will cost seats in the next election.

Bob Zimmer

Conservative Party Co-Chair of the Parliamentary Outdoor Caucus. When Garry Breitkreuz retired, Bob Zimmer took over. He is tracking opposition to the bill to assist his colleagues in the party's shadow cabinet.

Gudie Hutchings

Liberal Party Co-Chair of the Parliamentary Outdoor Caucus. She is an important conduit to send the message this bill will cost seats in the next election.

Larry Bagnell

When Garry Breitkreuz founded the Parliamentary Outdoor Caucus he asked Yukon MP Larry Bagnell to co-chair the caucus with him. Bagnell is another Liberal MP who follows gun regulations closely, as it cost him the 2011 election. He is also one of the MPs who won his seat by less than 5% of the votes in 2015.

Wayne Easter

The former Solicitor General of Canada knows how valuable rural Canadians are when it comes to forming government.

"We haven't learned as the Liberal party, if you're going to form, if you're going to develop policy if you're going to implement policy, you have to form government. And we need rural Canada in our camp. And I can tell you gun control cost us in rural Canada at least 60 seats."[32]

Always Send a Copy to Your MP

Even better, write a short letter of explanation to your MP when you include a copy of your letter to the Minister of Public Safety.

Find your MP here:

https://www.ourcommons.ca/Parliamentarians/en/members

Write the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security

The Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security[33] is the House of Commons committee reviewing Bill C-71.

Now is the time to make your views known to members of the committee.[34] Send your letter to each member of the Committee, postage free, at:

House of Commons Ottawa, Ontario Canada K1A 0A6

Name	Email address	Telephone
Committee Chair		
John McKay (L)	John.McKay@parl.gc.ca	613-992-1447
Committee Vice-Chairs		
Pierre Paul-Hus (C)	Pierre.Paul-Hus@parl.gc.ca	613-995-8857
Matthew Dube (NDP)	Matthew.Dube@parl.gc.ca	613-992-6035
Committee Members		
Blaine Calkins (C)	Blaine.Calkins@parl.gc.ca	613-995-8886
Julie Dabrusin (L)	Julie.Dabrusin@parl.gc.ca	613-992-9381
Pam Damoff (L)	Pam.Damoff@parl.gc.ca	613-992-1338
Peter Fragiskatos (L)	Peter.Fragiskatos@parl.gc.ca	613-992-0805
Mark Holland (L)	Mark.Holland@parl.gc.ca	613-995-8042
Glen Motz (C)	Glen.Motz@parl.gc.ca	613-996-0633
Michel Picard (L)	Michel.Picard@parl.gc.ca	613-996-2416
Sven Spengemann (L)	Sven.Spengemann@parl.gc.ca	613-992-4848

Write to All Senators

After Bill C-71 has passed three readings in the House of Commons, it must pass three readings in the Senate before it can become law. This is why writing every member of the Senate to express your views is also important.

Full contact information for all Senators is available from the Senate of Canada website.[35]

https://sencanada.ca/en/contact-information/

If you require a Microsoft Excel or Open Document format spreadsheet to build a mail-merge document, download your preferred file format here:

https://s3.amazonaws.com/CSSA/PDF/Senate-Contact-List.ods
https://s3.amazonaws.com/CSSA/PDF/Senate-Contact-List.xlsx

Send your letter to Senators at this address, postage-free:

[Name of Senator], Senator
The Senate of Canada
Parliament Buildings
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A4

Write One New Letter Every Week

Do you value your guns?

It's an honest question.

We spend time on those things we value most. If you value your guns, you will spend 30 minutes per week to write and mail a short letter to your Members of Parliament, your Senators, and the members of the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security.

With the CSSA's Talking Points on Bill C-71 as your starting point, you can write a short letter in less than 10 minutes. You will spend most of your time addressing the envelopes and making copies of it.

Take a photo of your addressed envelopes and post it on Twitter and Facebook as part of our Talking Point Tuesday letter campaign.

#TalkingPointTuesday to #StopC71

“...Some of my most favourite memories in the field certainly are not the biggest animals I’ve ever hunted or the accolades, they’re those hunts with my father...”

— Jim Shockey,[36] Award-Winning Outdoor Writer, Wildlife Photographer, Videographer, Wilderness Guide and Outfitter, JimShockey.com

6. Weekly Easy Action Steps

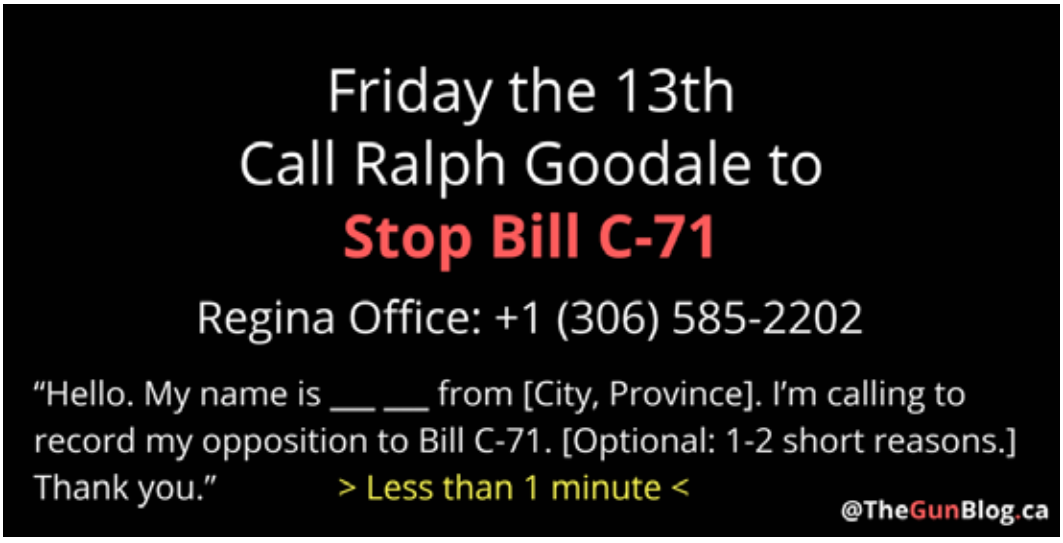
Phone Call Friday

Phone Call Friday is a weekly call to action that grew out of an idea Nicolas Johnson, the editor of TheGunBlog.ca, posted on Friday, April 13, 2018.

The goal was to flood the Minister of Public Safety's constituency office with phone calls from gun owners opposed to Bill C-71. It was successful beyond Johnson's wildest dreams.

TheGunBlog.ca posts a reminder every Friday morning.

His original infographic[37] said:



My Call to Goodale on Bill C-71: I Was Anxious, But It Was Easy

Nicolas Johnson/TheGunBlog.ca[38]

I was anxious the first time I phoned a member of cabinet. It was two weeks ago, when I called Canadian Minister of Public Safety Ralph Goodale to oppose Bill C-71. Turns out it was a piece of cake. Here's how it went.

Pre-Call Anxiety

My nervousness before the call surprised me.

My career has required me to ask top corporate and government executives some hard questions, sometimes in front of hundreds of people. I've often called strangers for my job and as a volunteer. I've spoken with many elected officials and their staff, mainly during my run for office in the last Ontario election. But I still had the jitters before this call.

I had written a couple letters to my MP, a Liberal. The first was an e-mail to oppose a Parliamentary Motion last year. The second was a form letter against Bill C-71 through OneClearVoice.ca three weeks ago.

But I had never made a personal phone call to oppose something they stood for.

My Q&A with Conservative MP Bob Zimmer about Bill C-71 convinced me to make this call.

Making the Call

I dialled Goodale's Regina office, as Zimmer instructed. The phone rang for what seemed like a long time. A man answered and introduced himself. I spoke from the script Zimmer suggested.

"Hello. My name is Nicolas Johnson from Toronto, Ontario. I'm calling to record my opposition to Bill C-71."

"OK, thank you for the call. What's your postal code, please?"

I told him.

"Great, thank you. I've noted it. Was there anything else?"

The call could have ended there. Easy. I asked if I should say why I oppose the bill.

"You can if you'd like to."

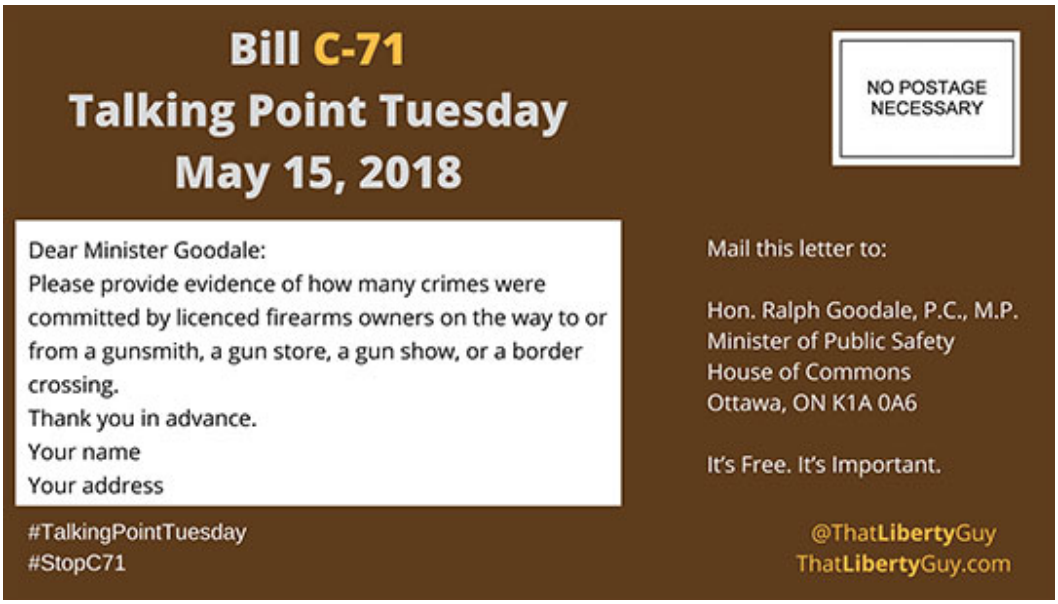
I shared two points from my list. The staffer offered enthusiastic and courteous rebuttals. I countered. We thanked each other and said goodbye.

The whole thing lasted about 2 minutes. It could have been done in 20 seconds.

It was so easy and pleasant that I called my Liberal MP for the first time in my life. Also easy and pleasant. Since then, many people have told me they called and it was easy for them, too. Many simply left a voice message.

I have no idea if these actions will influence the government to stop this unjust and unnecessary legislation, but I am continuing to oppose Bill C-71 through letters, phone calls, petitions, and other means. And I will do my darnedest to support political candidates and parties who support the legitimate use of firearms.

Talking Point Tuesday



The idea for Talking Point Tuesday was sparked by Nicolas Johnson's successful Phone Call Friday program.

The purpose is similar - to flood the Minister of Public Safety's office with letters against Bill C-71.

How It Works

- Write a letter to the Minister of Public Safety.
- Make seven copies.
- Address eight envelopes, suggested in the section titled, Why Sending a Copy of Your Letter to Certain MPs is Critical.
- Stuff each envelope with a copy of your letter.
- Take a picture of your addressed letters and post it to Twitter and Facebook using the hashtag #TalkingPointTuesday.
- Do it again next week.
- Drop them in the mailbox.
- Repeat next week.

Why post a picture?

To encourage others to follow your lead.

Also, the government monitors social media, so it sends an additional message of opposition through a different channel.

Monday Motivator

Phone Call Friday is a victim of its own success. Many people who try to call the Minister of Public Safety's constituency office are sent directly to voicemail, which informs the caller the mailbox is full and hangs up on them without allowing them to leave a message.

That's disheartening after finally getting up the nerve to make the phone call. By making a call first thing Monday morning, you increase your chances speaking to a live human being at the Minister's constituency office.

Posters for Gun Stores, Clubs and Ranges

The Poster Program is an idea we came up with after input, direct and indirect, from countless associations, companies and individuals.

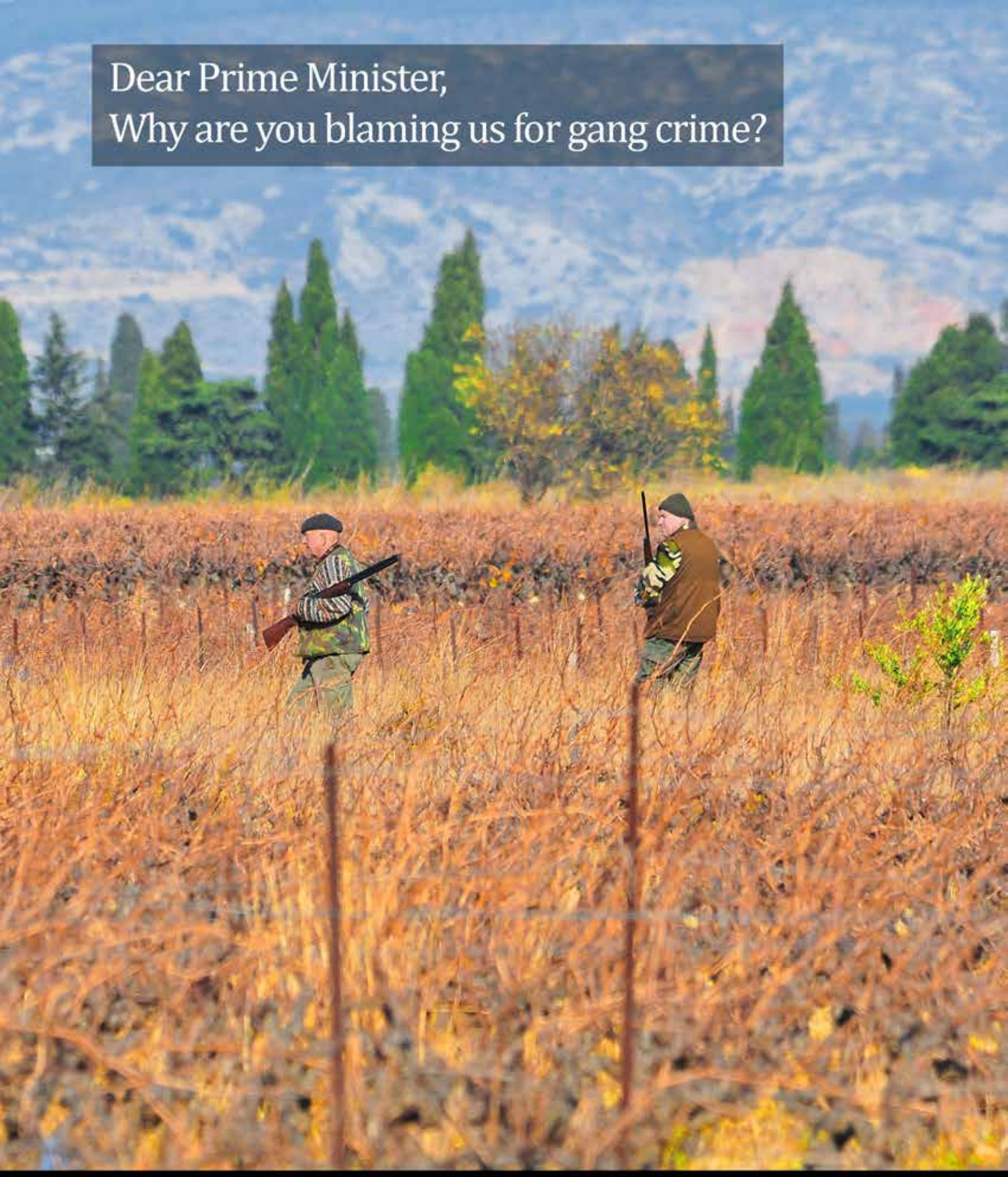
The goal is to give firearm businesses a tool to tell their customers about Bill C-71 and how to fight it.

Download and print this flyer and take it to your local gun store. Ask them to display it prominently in their establishment.

It also works for gun clubs, ranges and associations.

Download Link: **StopC71.com**

Dear Prime Minister,
Why are you blaming us for gang crime?



StopC71.com

7. If You Want to Do More, Then Do More

Invite Your MP to Speak at Your Gun Club

What better way to inform your political representative of your opinion than by inviting them to speak to the membership of your gun club?

Your Member of Parliament represents you in the House of Commons. Their job is to listen to your viewpoint and take it to Parliament on your behalf. Most MPs actively seek opportunities to interact with their constituents. Call your MPs constituency office and extend an invitation. Follow up to ensure you obtain their commitment.

On the evening of the event, ensure you are polite and courteous. Listen to what they have to say and share your thoughts with them.

Your elected representative is, like you, a human being. Treat them with respect, even when you disagree, and you will win their respect as well.

Host a Town Hall Meeting About Bill C-71 at Your Gun Club

This is a bigger job than asking your MP to speak to your gun club, but it also has the potential to draw in a wider range of constituents concerned about the same issue.

Find individuals knowledgeable about Bill C-71 and ask them to speak at your Town Hall event. Invite your local MP, as well as your provincial representative and Invite your local or municipal councilor. The more well-known speakers you bring to your event, the bigger turnout you will enjoy and the greater your impact on your community.

Join Your Local Electoral District Association

Your electoral district association (EDA), also known as your riding, is where the real grassroots political work happens. Elections Canada lists all registered EDAs here:

http://www.elections.ca/WPAPPS/WPR/EN/EDA

Use Election Canada's online tool to find contact information for your local EDA. Contact them and attend a meeting. If you show the slightest interest, they will shower you with ideas to implement, and ask you to implement them. Find out what work they need done and determine where your personal skill set and inclination is most beneficial, and start working for change in your riding.

You should also join your provincial association and municipal association. All levels of government influence hunting and shooting regulations.

Provincial elections happen regularly. Ontario has an election in June 2018, Quebec has one later this year, Alberta goes to the polls within the next 12 months. Now is the time to influence those who wish to win a seat in the provincial legislature. Talk to your local candidates and support those who support your rights.

The absolute best way to convince non-gun owners we are not crazed killers-in-waiting is to walk among them, interact with them and show them what we're really like — honest, decent Canadians who want a better nation for our children and grandchildren.

You can also invite them for a fun couple hours of shooting.

Ask Your City or Town Council to Pass a Motion Opposing Bill C-71

If you think this idea is far-fetched, here is proof to change your mind.

Vern Gorham, the mayor of Baldwin, Ontario, presented a motion to the town council to oppose Bill C-71. It passed unanimously.

"We don't need Bill C-71 and it should be quashed without further ado," Gorham said in the motion. The explanatory letter referred to in the motion can be viewed here:

https://s3.amazonaws.com/CSSA/C71/Township-of-Baldwin-Bill-C71-Mayor-Letter.pdf[39]

From Manitoulin.ca:[40]

"Rather than create new legislation, why not spend the time and money in enforcing the laws that are on the books today that never really seems to matter as a deterrent to the criminal and gang element?"

"Much of our country was founded and built with the use of firearms first in the fur trade and then in the rebellions/uprisings in the 1790s and 1800s and then the wars," Mayor Gorham continues. "For many Ontarians, firearms are a part of their lifestyle and culture and heritage, especially those living in the North and even, to some extent, those in the GTA."

"I'm asking that you make a wise move and cancel Bill C-71 and simply enforce the legislation that is in place," he concludes.

Wanstalls Online Firearm Industry Leadership

Wanstalls Tactical & Sporting Arms became the poster child of firearm industry opposition to Bill C-71 through a full-page ad in Calibre magazine.

"For us, it's not just about selling guns," Matt Mendel, the store manager, told TheGunBlog.ca in an interview. "It's about making sure that our kids and our grandkids and their grandkids have the ability to use their guns in Canada for their legally intended purposes."

We sell guns to good people.

And we will oppose any government that tries to take those guns away.

Over the past decades, law-abiding Canadian gun owners have been subjected to ever-advancing gun control laws that restrict, prohibit and otherwise impose on what is a safe, respectful and traditional Canadian tradition enjoyed by millions of Canada's safest citizens.

With the government's recent announcement of additional laws to be passed this year that again look to foist further restrictions on Canada's millions of gun owners, we at Wanstalls are committed to working with groups, clubs, individuals, and political parties that acknowledge and respect Canadian gun owners. Because we are gun owners.

WANSTALLS ONLINE

Shop, research, and order online at

WANSTALLSONLINE.COM

1-888-967-4867

Dear Prime Minister,
Why are you blaming me for gang crime?

StopC71.com

8. If You Think Bill C-71 Is a Done Deal, Think Again

This government has backed down on almost every major campaign promise it made:

- Revamping the electoral system.
- Restoring Canada Post home delivery.
- Expanding support for military veterans.
- Providing a cost-benefit analysis for all government legislation.
- Running deficits of $10 billion for two years, then balancing the budget. The deficit ballooned by $34 billion in the first year alone.
- Drafting policy based on evidence.

The government may back down from Bill C-71, too, if enough people voice their disapproval, even though the Liberal Party has a majority of seats in the House of Commons and broad support in the Senate, said Conservative MP Bob Zimmer, Co-Chair of the Parliamentary Outdoor Caucus.

That shared belief drove us to write this book. We know it won't be easy, but we believe it is possible.

"It's not a done deal," Zimmer told TheGunBlog.ca in early April. "Be focused on it. This government has backed down before. I'm optimistic that they'll pull back again."

Bill C-71 passed the second of three readings in the House of Commons on March 28. The Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security began reviewing it on May 8 and was scheduled to continue on May 22.[41]

Wantsalls
Dear Prime Minister,
Why are you blaming me for gang crime?
StopC71.com

9. Conclusion

Do You Value Your Guns?

Human beings focus on what we value.

We spend our time on the things we value most.

Do you value your guns? Will you spend a few minutes per week to defend your firearms by making a phone call or writing a letter?

Maybe you'll take someone to the shooting range or help them get their federal firearm licence. Maybe you'll even write a cheque, join your favourite gun-rights organization and political party.

Defending our rights and freedoms takes effort. As the late John Holdstock, former president of the BC Wildlife Federation, said at the bottom of every email:

"The world is run by those who show up."

Nobody feels they have the time or means to fight government policy. If we value our guns as much as we claim we do, then we must make time for action to claw back our rights.

As we show in this book, it takes less than 30 seconds to call the Minister of Public Safety or your Member of Parliament. It's free.

It takes just a few minutes to send an e-mail, or write short letters and send them by post.

Effective political action really is that easy.

If you make phone calls and send letters every week, it will take less than 15 minutes of your time, yet your impact is massive.

Too busy to do it each week? Then do what you can.

Imagine if you enlisted your family or a few friends to do the same. Effective political action really is that easy.

If you consider a 30-second phone call or a 15-minute letter is too hard, too boring, or too scary, we have two questions for you:

Do you really value your guns?

What have you done to prove it?

Yours in Liberty,

Christopher di Armani
ChristopherDiArmani.net

Nicolas Johnson
TheGunBlog.ca

Appendixes

CSSA's Talking Points on Bill C-71, The Firearms Owners Harassment Act

Pick one talking point from the list below and use it as the basis for a short, one- or two- paragraph letter to the Minister of Public Safety.

Background Checks

- Who evaluates the information resulting from a background check?
- What qualifications do they have to evaluate this information?
- Whose opinion(s) will form the basis for an investigation and by what legislative authority?
- What is the criteria the evaluations are based on?
- Why is there no appeal process?
- What is the start-up cost and annual operating cost for this system?
- How did the existing background check system fail? In other words, what is the evidence proving the existing 5-year background check fails its public-safety goal?

Licence Verification

- Businesses are forced to keep a record associating an individual person to an individual firearm. How is this not a gun registry?
- Are all Licence Verifications entered into a database to track individual firearm owner activity?
- Who keeps this Licence Verification activity data, for what purpose, and how long will it be retained?
- Is Licence Verification data attached to an individual's licence? If so, who can access it?
- What are the criteria for the Licence Verification to be approved or denied?
- What is the start-up cost and annual operating cost for the Licence Verification system?

Authorizations to Transport

- Why was "Transport to/from a Gunsmith eliminated?" Was there any public-safety issue and, if so, what was it?
- Why was "Transport to/from a gun store for Appraisal or Sale" eliminated? Was there a public-safety issue and, if so, what was it?
- Why was "Transport to/from a Gun Show eliminated?" Was there any public-safety issue and, if so, what was it?

- Why was "Transport to/from a Border Point eliminated?" Was there any public-safety issue and, if so, what was it?
- What is the government's estimate of the annual cost to perform these mundane functions individually?
- Will the four previous ATTs be issued on paper? If not, how will an individual prove they have an ATT for the purpose stated?
- Was there a cost/benefit analysis completed? If so, what conclusion did it make?

Section 12(9) to 12(14)

- What is the purpose of Section 12(9) "authorizing the individual to possess prohibited firearms of a prescribed class" when there are no outstanding prescribed classes of "Prohibited" firearms?
- Does Section 12(9) mean the government plans to ban more firearms?
- How will the government protect owners of newly "Prohibited" firearms from criminal prosecution and prison?
- What new legislative authority grants the RCMP the power to prohibit or restrict firearms?
- How will the government notify owners of newly "Prohibited" firearms so they can avoid arrest and prosecution for illegal possession of a "Prohibited" firearm?
- Will the RCMP continue to secretly change classifications in the Firearms Reference Table (FRT) without informing the owners?
- Why are firearm owners not informed of firearm classification changes under the current system?
- Why are licensed firearm owners prevented from consulting the RCMP's Firearms Reference Table?
- How can firearm owners appeal new firearm prohibitions?

Swiss Arms series and CZ 858s will become "Prohibited"

- Previously, the RCMP classified CZ 858s as Section 12(3) "Prohibited". Does their inclusion in Section 12(11) mean the RCMP made another mistake in classification?
- Will an information bulletin be issued to police describing the difference between prohibited CZ 858s and other similar firearms?
- Is there an appeal process to 12(9) and if not, why not?
- The RCMP originally classified the Swiss Arms Classic Green family of rifles "Non-Restricted." Does their inclusion in Section 12(14) mean the RCMP made another mistake in classification?
- Is there an appeal process to Section 12(14) prohibitions and if not, why not?

The powers of the Governor in Council to declare a firearm to be Non-Restricted has been revoked

- Why, after the RCMP's repeated history of incorrect firearm classification, has the power of our elected officials to correct mistakes made by the unelected and unaccountable RCMP been removed?
- Does the government plan another method to correct RCMP mistakes? If so, what is that method?
- What is the rationale for elected Members of Parliament to abdicate the powers delegated to it by the electorate to make laws?
- What must the current or future government do to rectify an incorrect firearm classification?

Canadian Gun Law Basics

Firearm Classification

Canadian law assigns guns to one of three classes:

"Non-Restricted"	many shotguns and hunting rifles
"Restricted"	most handguns and some semi-automatic rifles, such as the AR-15
"Prohibited"	smaller handguns, many semi-automatic and automatic rifles

All three classes are highly regulated and restricted, and legal to own only with the appropriate licences and authorizations. "Prohibited" doesn't necessarily mean prohibited for everyone right now, since some people are allowed to own "Prohibited" firearms. But because of the rules around buying, selling and giving them away, once the owner dies, they are turned in to police or confiscated.

Many of the world's most-popular or iconic firearms and standard gear is off-limits to most Canadians, e.g. AK-47 rifle (automatic and semi-auto), FN-FAL rifle (auto and semi-auto), Glock 19 pistol, Walther PPK pistol, as well as standard-sized pistol and rifle magazines.

Section 12 Firearm Ownership Deciphered

Section 12 of the *Firearms Act*[42] defines several categories of firearm owners under the heading "Special Cases — Prohibited Firearms, Weapons, Devices and Ammunition." We have translated some of the jargon.

Section 12(2) Delayed confiscation for owners of automatic firearms owned prior to January 1, 1978.

Section 12(3) Delayed confiscation for owners of converted automatic firearms owned prior to August 1, 1992.

Section 12(4) Delayed confiscation for owners of firearms owned and registered by July 27, 1992, but declared Prohibited Firearms in Prohibited Weapons Order, No. 12.

Section 12(5) Delayed confiscation for owners of firearms owned and registered by January 1, 1995, 1992, but declared Prohibited Firearms in Prohibited Weapons Order, No. 13.

Section 12(6) Delayed confiscation for owners of handguns with barrels of 105 mm or less, and all .25 and .32 calibre handguns, owned and registered by January 1, 1998.

Section 12(7) Delayed confiscation for relatives who inherit 12(6) handguns manufactured before 1946 (family heirlooms).

Section 12(8) Delayed confiscation for owners of any firearm prohibited by the use of *Criminal Code* section 117.15(1) Order in Council.

The following are proposed by Bill C-71:

Section 12(9) Would create an open, catch-all category of owners potentially eligible for delayed confiscation. Read more in Chapter 2.

Section 12(10) Delayed confiscation for owners of CZ 858 rifles specifically named in Section 12(11).

Section 12(11) Firearms designated as "Prohibited" by Bill C-71:

(i) Ceská Zbrojovka (CZ) Model CZ858 Tactical-2P rifle,
(ii) Ceská Zbrojovka (CZ) Model CZ858 Tactical-2V rifle,
(iii) Ceská Zbrojovka (CZ) Model CZ858 Tactical-4P rifle, or
(iv) Ceská Zbrojovka (CZ) Model CZ858 Tactical-4V rifle;

Section 12(12) For greater certainty, the firearms referred to in sub-paragraphs (11)(a)(i) to (iv) include only firearms that are prohibited firearms on commencement day.

Section 12(13) Delayed confiscation for owners of SAN Swiss Arms rifles specifically named in Section 12(14).

Section 12(14) Firearms designated as "Prohibited" firearms by Bill C-71:

(i) SAN Swiss Arms Model Classic Green rifle,
(ii) SAN Swiss Arms Model Classic Green carbine,
(iii) SAN Swiss Arms Model Classic Green CQB rifle,
(iv) SAN Swiss Arms Model Black Special rifle,
(v) SAN Swiss Arms Model Black Special carbine,
(vi) SAN Swiss Arms Model Black Special CQB rifle,
(vii) SAN Swiss Arms Model Black Special Target rifle,
(viii) SAN Swiss Arms Model Blue Star rifle,
(ix) SAN Swiss Arms Model Heavy Metal rifle,
(x) SAN Swiss Arms Model Red Devil rifle,
(xi) SAN Swiss Arms Model Swiss Arms Edition rifle,
(xii) SAN Swiss Arms Model Classic Green Sniper rifle,
(xiii) SAN Swiss Arms Model Ver rifle,
(xiv) SAN Swiss Arms Model Aestas rifle,
(xv) SAN Swiss Arms Model Autumnus rifle, or
(xvi) SAN Swiss Arms Model Hiemis rifle;

Activism Resources

Web

- StopC71.com
  The website for this book.
- TheGunBlog.ca
  The leading source of news and analysis on Bill C-71.
- StopC71.ca
  A website managed by Conservative MP Cheryl Gallant.
- OneClearVoice.ca
  A website and letter-writing tool run by Doug McComber.

Social Media

Hashtags on Twitter and Facebook

- #StopC71
- #BillC71Book
- #NoC71
- #SayNoToC71

Canadian Voters Against Bill C-71

Founded and managed by Jeff Young

https://www.facebook.com/groups/1704399386313690/

Koala Tea Canadian Gun Policy Literacy

Founded by Roland Coppens. Offers a wide array of information:
https://www.facebook.com/canadiangunpolicyliteracy/posts/238712003533373

House of Commons Briefs

http://www.ourcommons.ca/Committees/en/SECU/StudyActivity?studyActivityId=10058758

Forbes

2012 profile of Garry Breitkreuz
https://www.forbes.com/sites/frankminiter/2012/02/29/meet-the-man-responsible-for-the-death-of-canadas-gun-registry/#73280884230e

MPs Elected By 5% or Less of Votes Cast in 2015 Federal Election

The following Members of Parliament were elected by 5 percent or less of the votes cast in their riding in the 2015 federal election. If you live in one of these ridings, you have great power heading into the 2019 federal election.

The most up-to-date list with clickable email links is located at:

https://NoC71.ca

Rural Liberal MPs

Cambridge	Bryan May
Chicoutimi-Le Fjord	Denis Lemieux
Fundy Royal	Alaina Lockhart
Hastings-Lennonx and Addington	Mike Bossio
Kenora	Bob Nault
King-Vaughan	Deb Schulte
Kildonan-St. Paul	MaryAnn Mihychuk
Laurentides-Labelle	David Graham
Mission–Matsqui-Fraser Canyon	Jati Sidhu
Nickel Belt	Marc Serré
Northumberland-Peterborough South	Kim Rudd
Pitt Meadows-Maple Ridge	Dan Ruimy
Saint-Jean	Jean Rioux
St. John's East	Nick Whalen

Liberal Party of Canada

Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill	Leona Alleslev
Burlington	Karina Gould
Calgary Centre	Kent Hehr
Cambridge	Bryan May
Coquitlam-Port Coquitlam	Ron McKinnon
Davenport	Julie Dzerowicz
Edmonton Centre	Randy Boissonnault
Edmonton Mill Woods	Amarjeet Sohi
Fundy Royal	Alaina Lockhart
Hastings-Lennonx and Addington	Mike Bossio
Kenora	Bob Nault
Kildonan-St. Paul	MaryAnn Mihychuk
King-Vaughan	Deborah Schulte
Laurentides-Labelle	David Graham
Mission—Matsqui-Fraser Canyon	Jati Sidhu
Montarville	Michel Picard
Newmarket-Aurora	Kyle Peterson
Niagara Centre	Vance Badawey
Nickel Belt	Marc Serré
Northumberland-Peterborough South	Kim Rudd
Oakville North-Burlington	Pam Damoff
Ottawa Centre	Catherine McKenna
Parkdale-High Park	Arif Virani
Pitt Meadows-Maple Ridge	Dan Ruimy
Québec	Jean-Yves Duclos
Richmond Hill	Majid Jowhari
Rivière-des-Mille-Îles	Linda Lapointe
Saint-Jean	Jean Rioux
St. John's East	Nick Whalen
Toronto-Danforth	Julie Dabrusin
Vaughan-Woodbridge	Francesco Sorbara
Whitby	Celina Caesar-Chavannes
York Centre	Michael Levitt

New Democratic Party

Abitibi-Baie-James-Nunavik-Eeyou	Romeo Saganash
Beloeil-Chambly	Matthew Dubé
Burnaby South	Kennedy Stewart
Churchill-Keewatinook Aski	Niki Ashton
Desenthé-Missinippi-Churchill River	Georgina Jolibois
Drummond	Francois Choquette
Elmwood-Transcona	Daniel Blaikie
Hamilton Mountain	Scott Duvall
Hochelaga	Marjolaine Boutin-Sweet
Jonquière	Karine Trudel
Kootenay-Columbia	Wayne Stetski
Longueuil-Saint-Hubert	Pierre Nantel
Regina-Lewvan	Erin Weir
Saint-Hyacinthe-Bagot	Brigitte Sansoucy
Salaberry-Suroit	Anne Quach
Trois-Rivières	Robert Aubin

Bloc Québécois

La Pointe-de-l'Île,	Mario Beaulieu
Mirabel	Simon Marcil
Pierre-Boucher-Les Patriotes-Vercheres,	Xavier Barsalou-Duval
Riviere-du-Nord	Rhéal Fortin
Terrebonne	Michel Boudrias

Conservative Party of Canada

Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte	Alex Nuttall
Calgary Confederation	Len Webber
Carleton	Pierre Poilievre
Central Okanagan-Similkameen-Nicola	Dan Albas
Chatham-Kent-Leamington	Dave Van Kesteren
Kamloops-Thompson-Cariboo	Cathy McLeod
Kitchener-Conestoga	Harold Albrecht
Flamborough-Glanbrook	David Sweet
Milton	Lisa Raitt
Montmagny-L'Islet-Kamouraska-Riviere-du-Loup	Bernard Généreux
Parry Sound-Muskoka	Tony Clement
Richmond Centre	Alice Wong
Simcoe North	Bruce Stanton

Almost 100,000 People Legally Carry Firearms

Number of People Authorized to Carry Loaded Firearms in Daily Life

Source: TheGunBlog.ca[43]

Who	Number
Official Data	
Police (Federal, Provincial, Municipal)	68,773
Canada Border Services Agency	6,500
Canadian Rangers - Canadian Armed Forces	5,000
Military Police - Canadian Armed Forces	1,225
Alberta Sheriffs	640
Fisheries and Oceans Canada	560
British Columbia Deputy Sheriffs	460
Estimates	
Armoured-Car Guards	6,000
Provincial Conservation Officers	1,500
Parliamentary Protective Service	200
Correctional Service Canada	100
Nuclear Response Force	100
Canadian National Railway Police Service	100
Canadian Pacific Railway Police Service	50
Parks Canada Wardens	100
Trappers, Prospectors	600
Total	**91,908**

Endnotes

1 https://lop.parl.ca/ContactUs/contact-us-e.html
2 https://petitions.ourcommons.ca/en/Petition/Details?Petition=e-1608
3 https://thegunblog.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/qa-with-lynda-kiejko.pdf
4 http://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2013/pc-ch/CH24-1-2012-eng.pdf
5 https://s3.amazonaws.com/CSSA/C71/Stats-Can-Lynn-Barr-Telford-Guns-and-Gangs.pdf
6 https://www.ourcommons.ca/DocumentViewer/en/42-1/SECU/meeting-112/evidence#Int-10117893
7 Langmann, Caillin, Brief to Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security Re: Bill C-71 an Act to Amend Certain Acts and Regulations in Relation to Firearms (April 26, 2018). https://ssrn.com/abstract=3169661
8 Langmann, Caillin, Brief to Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security Re: Bill C-71 an Act to Amend Certain Acts and Regulations in Relation to Firearms (April 26, 2018). https://ssrn.com/abstract=3169661
9 http://publications.gc.ca/collections/Collection/IP34-8-2001E.pdf
10 http://gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2014/2014-08-27/html/sor-dors198-eng.html
11 https://s3.amazonaws.com/CSSA/C71/Stats-Can-Lynn-Barr-Telford-Guns-and-Gangs.pdf
12 https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/cntrng-crm/gn-crm-frrms/index-en.aspx
13 Mauser, Gary A., Submission to the Federal Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security on Bill C-71 (April 2018). http://www.ourcommons.ca/Content/HOC/Committee/421/SECU/Brief/BR9789410/br-external/MauserGary-e.pdf
14 https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2018/03/minister-goodale-urges-joint-action-to-combat-criminal-gun-and-gang-violence.html
15 https://twitter.com/JustinTrudeau/status/976098597296136194
16 https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2018/03/firearms-legislation-to-make-communities-safer.html
17 https://s3.amazonaws.com/CSSA/C71/Stats-Can-Lynn-Barr-Telford-Guns-and-Gangs.pdf
18 https://twitter.com/JustinTrudeau/status/976098598252433413
19 https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2018/03/minister-goodale-urges-joint-action-to-combat-criminal-gun-and-gang-violence.html
20 http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/liberals-firearms-bill-c71-1.4584074
21 https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/cntrng-crm/frrms/nw-msrs-frrms-en.aspx
22 https://www.hilltimes.com/2018/03/26/gun-bill-mps-speaking-others-keeping-head/138567
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About the Authors

Christopher di Armani is a former CFSC/CFRSC firearm safety instructor, he worked in the movie industry for 18 years where he taught actors how to handle firearms properly. He is certified in Black Badge (IPSC) and as a safety officer instructor for IDPA.

He created the YouTube series "Katey's Firearms Facts," which was viewed over 1 million times and, with his three documentary films, helped raise over $230,000 for a constitutional challenge of the *Firearms Act*. He published Canadian Rights and Freedoms Bulletin, a free weekly newsletter reporting on our ongoing battle for liberty, from 2010 to 2015.

Christopher enjoys hunting and competitive pistol shooting. In 2010 he won the British Columbia International Defensive Pistol Association Championship in his division.

He is an independent author and publisher of a dozen books, including his bestselling title "Justin Trudeau: 47 Character-Revealing Quotes from Canada's 23rd Prime Minister and What They Mean for You," and his 7-book series "Author Success Foundations" designed to help writers become more effective and prolific communicators.

He lives with his wife in the mountains three hours from Vancouver.

Nicolas Johnson is the editor of TheGunBlog.ca, Canada's leading source of news and analysis on gun rights, politics, policy, and the firearm industry.

He runs @TheGunBlog, which fuels the largest and most-engaged community of Canadian gun owners on Twitter. Nicolas also advises companies and individuals on communications.

In 2014, he ran for election to Ontario's legislature, increasing the number of votes for his party in his electoral district for the first time in three elections.

Previously, Nicolas worked around the world as a financial journalist, mainly in Europe and Asia with Bloomberg News and briefly in Toronto for The Globe and Mail. He has interviewed top executives in business and government, and has led teams producing Page One news for investors, decision makers and media worldwide. He began his career at a non-profit environmental organization in eastern Europe.

Nicolas has degrees from Queen's University in Canada and the Sorbonne in France. He lives in Toronto.